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PALMS for
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A VIEW OF ONE OF OUR GROWING FIELDS

INTRODUCTION

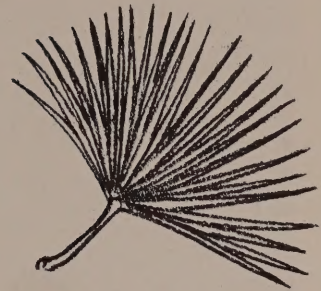
The princely Palms and their relatives are making a justly deserved comeback on the California scene due largely to the increasingly important roles they are playing as dramatic landscape subjects. Palm Trees are sought after and pampered in most parts of the world, but here in California, correctly planted, the trees will do their utmost to beautify and enhance any landscape. For most pleasing results in the landscape, Palms and their relatives, should be grouped in different sizes. Using different varieties is another helpful method for producing a better effect. If single specimens are used, they can be given increased emphasis, with subordinate planting of tropical subjects at the base.

It is our desire in this Palm Catalog, to better acquaint the trade with the various varieties that selections may be made from to create desired results in our California Gardens. Never before to our knowledge has a catalog such as this been printed for the benefit of the trade.

Our nurseries and office are always open to visitors. We are always glad to have interested visitors inspect our stock, which will prove that our products are the best that experience, good cultivation and favorable conditions can produce. Your inquiries are invited.



FAN



PALMS

ERYTHEA ARMATA

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Courtesy of the Huntington Botanical Gardens

Brahea (*Brahea argentea*). Silver Palm

A handsome palm, the medium-large foliage silvery on the underside, green above. The tree is not too large, growing perhaps to 15 or 25 feet under suitable conditions. The segment of the palmately-divided leaves, up to an inch in breadth, tend to be held in straight, outspread position rather than to droop at the outer ends as is the case in some other forms. Soils for the Brahea Palms should be well-drained, fertilized and watered. The species is unarmed, and of a size to be most valuable in the average home garden and grounds. Hardy in coastal regions of Southern California.

Brahea filamentosa. Washington Palm

What a beautiful thing is this large, heavy species, with its striking, long-stalked leaves standing well-separated to give the effect of an open, symmetrical crown rising above the typically graceful, most unusual thatch of old foliage that clings, hanging straight down, below it. This particular Palm grows tall, having been recorded as growing to 60 feet on occasions. The species is found in nature around springs and along stream courses in the Colorado Desert country in California, and over into southwest Arizona. It has been widely planted, has become very popular not only here with us but also along the Gulf coast of Florida. Easily grown where soil is fairly deep and fertile. Hardy to 20°.

Chamaerops humilis. Mediterranean Fan Palms

The genus Chamaerops, the word meaning "dwarf brush," comprises some of the most ideal of all types of palms for use in any home grounds, large or small. They are beautiful, the deeply-divided, palmate leaves carried in graceful, arching fashion upward, outward and downward forming a neat, smooth, attractive crown. Furthermore, the Mediterranean Fan Palms are among the hardiest kinds to be found anywhere. They are easy to transplant when young. They are noted for their free-growing habits, with many of them rising several-trunked from the ground, a very desirable characteristic that adds much interest in the home landscape.

Chamaerops humilis argentea. Silver Fan Palm

Here is a form of the Mediterranean Fan Palm, or Hair Palm as it is sometimes also called, that contributes a delightfully different tone of blue to the home planting. The fan-shaped leaf blades, often 2 to 3 feet in diameter and deeply cut, are composed of stiff, long, segments that are notably bluish in tint. These broad, neat "fans" are carried gracefully on leaf stalks 2 to 4 feet long, the stalks distinctly armed or spiny as is the case with so many palms. Because of the blue-tinted leaves the Silver Fan Palm has more than ordinary value as an accent plant, or as an accent group where three or more can be planted in a compact clump. It is hardy.

*CHAMAEROPS HUMILIS*

Chamaerops humilis canariensis. Canary Island Fan Palm

We have a very high regard for this handsome selection from the Canary Islands. It is distinctly different in character and appearance from the parent type from the mainland of Europe, the Mediterranean Fan Palm. Like its parent form, the hardy Canary Island Fan Palm has displayed a real fondness for the climate and soils of our entire southwestern region in California, Arizona and New Mexico. The tree prospers best in a well-drained soil where it can be given plenty of water. Its bright-green foliage color is outstanding.

Chamaerops humilis macrocarpa. Big-Fruit Fan Palm

We like this distinctly different member of the variable, versatile and hardy *Chamaerops* genus. Though its name points up its large size of fruit as being unusual, it is for general planting either as single specimens or in groups that it serves best in the landscape. It is a small palm, the fans of leaves carried gracefully and in profusion to form a neat, rounded outline. The fruits, very often closely resembling true dates, may run as big as 1½ inches in length, ¾ of an inch in diameter. But for the beauties of its fan-shaped leaves, and its lovely crown of dark green, more than for fruits, we think this variety should be given a place in every home planting in our region.

Copernicia cerifera. Carnauba Palm

The great natural beauty of the semi-hardy Carnauba palm is a combination of its two outstanding features, the huge, fan-like leaves, almost round or orbicular in outline, that often measure four to five feet from tip to tip, and the way it carries them in the typically graceful downward, outward and upward pattern in a dense, globose head atop the sturdy, medium-height trunk. Though the Carnauba palm has been known to reach 40 feet in its native Brazilian habitats, it is more apt to reach mature form with us here nearer 20 to 30 feet. The huge fans of the leaves are beautiful in every respect, their color a lively light green, with a waxy sheen, when the trees are well fertilized and watered during the summer season when growth is most active.



ERYTHEA EDULIS

Erythea armata. Mexican Blue Palm; Blue Hesper Palm

We regard this species as one of the noblest, most handsome of them all, both in its young, sturdy-trunked juvenile stages of growth and also in flowering maturity. At blooming time the flower clusters are massed heavily over the full length of the long, gracefully arched, down-sweeping stalks that reach 15 to 18 feet toward the ground, as lovely and delicate-looking as elongated ostrich plumes. In addition, the waxy blueness of the fan-shaped foliage makes this palm striking at all ages and seasons. Leaves run about three feet in diameter, have the shiny, waxy look, and are deeply cut. The hardy "Big Blue Hesper Palm," as it is sometimes called, too, makes a wonderful thing either for specimen planting, or for placing in bold background positions.

Erythea edulis. Guadalupe Fan Palm

This one, like its counterpart immediately above, the Blue Hesper Palm, is every bit as beautiful for the same sturdy-trunked quality, for the bright-green color of its larger leaves and for the unusually attractive way it carries them. The hardy Guadalupe Palm is somewhat quicker to take hold, too, and grows more rapidly through the early stages, but rounds off to mature near 20 to 30 feet even though it is known to get much taller in the native habitat (Guadalupe Island). We think this palm is especially worthy where you want feature specimens or groups at distances in the garden. Generally we recommend it for such locations, where its full beauty can be best appreciated, rather than having it in too close to patio, driveways, walks, etc.

Latania borbonica. Red Palm; Red Latania

The true Latania, as much or more so than any other palm, can be truly described as nothing short of striking. It is a powerful, semi-hardy, forceful species, the trunk heavy and strong, the foliage dominating in both its size and color. Leaves are huge, the fan-shaped blades often five feet or more across, their petioles (leaf stalks) and veins almost crimson in the young stages of growth. In the Mascarene Islands, where it is native, the trees will ultimately get to 40 feet in height, but under average garden conditions, here, they mature nearer 15-20 feet.

*RAPHIS EXCELSA***Licuala grandis. Licuala Fan Palm**

Here is a small-statured tender fan palm that has all kinds of garden uses. Since it seldom exceeds six or seven feet in height it is ideal for group plantings or for specimen purposes anywhere about the grounds, or it can be very effectively handled, in tubs or large containers, around the patio, the sun deck, the outdoor living room, the barbecue area, or in greenhouse, conservatory or sunroom. Leaves are rounded in outline, plaited, bright green, and are thickly set well over halfway down the slim, not-too-heavy trunks. Very attractive wherever planted, especially when watered and fertilized adequately, as with all palms, from April into October.

Livistona australis. Australian Fountain Palm

Though all the Fountain Palms are beautiful garden subjects, and well adapted for use in our area, this hardy Australian form must be regarded as being exceptionally worthy, both for superior hardiness and for good looks. The trunk is tall, slim and graceful, topped with the typically dense crown of handsome leaves that is so characteristic. The fans, often 3 to 5 feet in diameter, arch outward very gracefully on their long petioles or leaf stalks. Though the species is capable of getting to heights of 40-50 feet in Australia where it is native, most of the older specimens here are nearer 30 to 40 feet.

Livistona chinensis. Chinese Fountain Palm

We have the highest regard for this hardy, spectacular species, with its bold, strong features of trunk, foliage and overall form. Unlike its sister species, the Australian Fountain Palm, above, this type is lower, stockier, thicker-trunked, and wider looking at maturity. The trunk ordinarily rises not much more than 20 to 30 feet, topped with the dense crown of fans, each measuring 3 to 5 feet across, and each one carried well out on the 4- to 5-foot leaf stalks. This Fountain Palm was one of the earliest to come under cultivation in our region, has always been popular, and will remain so because of its reliability and beauty.

Livistona chinensis. (*Olivae formis*). Fountain Palm

Similar in all features to the above, this hardy selection makes a superb companion for use with it and with other fan-type palms. It is very easy of culture, adaptable to a variety of conditions, but appreciates plenty of moisture and fertilizer during the growing season. Can be used anywhere you need tubbed palms around the grounds, the patio, or in greenhouse or sunroom. Or is equally valuable planted directly into the garden as single specimens or in groups where you need strong background effects. The broad leaves are fresh-looking, a glossy, attractive green, up to 4 and 5 feet across. A beautiful tree.



WASHINGTONIA FILIFERA (Page 8)

Paurotis wrightii. Saw-Cabbage Palm

Here is something entirely different in palms, a more dwarf type that produces a most appealing clump effect by virtue of its many-stemmed, many-trunked character. Notably hardy, and very slow growing, the Saw-Cabbage Palm exhibits exactly the qualities one needs either for use on the small home grounds or to finish out palm groupings on larger properties. Foliage is nice-looking, the fans 2 to 3 feet in diameter, bright green above and silvery underneath. In the Everglades country, where it is native, the tallest specimens rise to 40 feet, but it is doubtful that we can expect it to go more than 20 feet hereabouts unless the gardener waters and fertilizes abundantly. The several-trunked character is most effective.

Rhapis excelsa. Lady Palm

Another several-stemmed beauty, low in stature, with bamboo-like appearance, that is very versatile for home gardening purposes. Especially valuable and more attractive in locations where it is protected against the full blast of summer sun. It is hard to imagine how beautiful a clump of Lady Palm can be. The best description we know is to say they resemble a neat clump of bamboos with fan-shaped foliage. Semi-hardy, very neat and unusual in every respect. Fine for foreground plantings, for pot and tub culture, for working into foundation plantings and for use as specimen clumps.

Rhapis humilis. Slender Lady Palm

The Lady Palms undoubtedly have taken their common name from the delicateness of their appearance. And this semi-hardy one is even more slender and graceful than usual. The leaves are beautiful, typically fan-shaped, the finger-like segments green on both surfaces, and carried in gracefully arching position to give an unusual quality of neatness and smoothness to the mass. The Slender Lady Palm is the taller of the two, often getting up to 15-18 feet. Clumps are better looking when plenty of water and fertilizer are used. Soil should be fertile, especially when they are grown in pots or tubs.

Sabal blackburnia. Blackburn Palmetto

All of the Palmettos are notable for their rugged versatility and adaptability to a wide range of growing conditions. The hardy Blackburn Palmetto, capable of growing to about 25 feet under good conditions, has the added advantage of developing inclined or crooked trunks, a characteristic that adds much to its garden value. The leaves are very large, ordinarily 6 feet or more in diameter, both upper and lower surfaces a good green in color. Makes a handsome specimen.



TRACHYCARPUS FORTUNEI

Sabal deeringiana. Savannah Palmetto

This Palmetto is one of the most "different" of them all, easily recognized by the bright green color on the upper sides of the leaves, with the undersides distinctly bluish. The fan-shaped blades are deeply cut, the segments drooping, feeling waxy to the touch. A very desirable, hardy species. The Palmettos are so easy to care for, and so adaptable to a wide variety of conditions and soils, that all home plantings should include some of them.

Coccothrinax argentea. Silver Palm

Here is a hardy, small to medium-height palm that has proven very valuable for both specimen planting as well as for clump use. Leaves are divided almost to the base, the segments slender, bright green above and gracefully arching. The silvery-gray undersides give an added touch of color, especially where lights are used for after dark effects.

Trachycarpus fortunei. Chinese Windmill Palm or Chamearops Excelsa

The Windmill Palm is without a doubt the hardiest of all available types, growing out-of-doors in gardens as far north as the coasts of western Oregon and Washington. A slow-growing species, one that has been reported as getting to 40-45 feet in its native Chinese and Japanese habitats, it seldom exceeds 25-35 feet in the average garden. One of the best for the more exposed planting sites. Leaves 2 to 3 feet in diameter. Windmill Palms may be used most effectively where you need group plantings, several at a place.

Washingtonia filifera. California Fan Palm (Page 7)

A beautiful, hardy tree, whether seen in its native habitat here in California, neighboring Arizona and Mexico, or when planted for specimen and group uses in gardens and parks. The scientific name, *Washingtonia*, was given it in honor of our first President. The California Palm has big, powerful features to be seen in its size, and its large, heavy foliage. The trunks may finally rise to 50 or 60 feet, topped with the typically handsome spread of leaves at the top, and clothed with a petticoat-like sheath of clinging leaves over much of its trunk length.



WASHINGTONIA ROBUSTA (Mexican Fan Palm)

Washingtonia gracilis. Mexican Palm

Here is a Mexican palm, closely related to our native California Fan Palm, that differs from it mainly in the taller, more slender habit of growth. Young, vigorous seedlings take hold quickly when planted in spring, and grow more rapidly than is the case with *Washingtonia filifera*, especially where it is favored with ample watering and fertilizing during the growing season. A most handsome and hardy type for specimen uses, or for grouping on larger properties, or for street, highway, park and ranch plantings.

Washingtonia robusta. Mexican Fan Palm

In our judgment this is the stateliest of all palms when it reaches full, mature stature, the magnificent trunks rising straight and tall, like sentinels, carrying the crown of fan-shaped leaves to heights of 60 or even 70 feet into the sky. The oldest specimens in California, those planted on the terrace at the Art Museum, Huntington Botanical Gardens, typify the near breath-taking beauty of which they are capable. In addition to the single-specimen and straight-line, formal types of plantings in which they have been used so much in the past, we suggest that they be placed in informal groups or clumps, 3 to 5 or more, close-planted, for unusual effects in larger suburban gardens, on ranches and country estates. A hardy palm.

Washingtonia sonorae. Sonoran Fan Palm

A closely related type of Mexican Fan Palm that has all the fine qualities of stateliness and beauty we associate with the others. It is a fast-growing, hardy sort, one that soon develops an air of tall grace that lends tone to any garden, estate, park, ranch, street or highway planting. Foliage is a very bright green, the crown of leaves somewhat narrower than is the case with others of its relatives.



FEATHER PALMS



ARECASTRUM ROMANZOFFIANUM (*Cocos Plumosa*)

Areca cabada (*Areca lutescens* var.). Red Butterfly Palm

A lovely feathery, modest-sized palm, notable in the young, juvenile stages for the red coloration of the leaf parts, particularly the petioles of leaf stalks. It is proving to be one of the very best tender palms for indoor use, seldom getting much taller than 10 or 15 feet, and possessing the very desirable habit of throwing many shoots from the base to give the clump effect. The leaves are beautiful, long, arching and feathery, and are retained right down to the bottom of the clump.

Areca madagascariensis. Yellow Butterfly Palm

One of the loveliest of the several-stemmed, clump-growing feather palms, well foliaged almost to the base, the leaf stalks, and the young main stems, quite yellowish in color, the long, narrow leaf segments yellow green. A delightful, semi-hardy plant in every respect, fine for pot or tub culture, and adaptable to both indoor and outdoor uses. The Butterfly Palms are rather small-statured sorts, the clumps of this yellow species seldom much over 25 feet tall. Ideal in size, in other words, for the average home garden, or for foreground and middle-grown locations in any landscape.

Arecastrum romanzoffianum (*Cocos plumosa*). Queen Palm

The Queen Palm is certainly well named. It is a charming species in every respect, its trunk tall, clean, straight, and the crown of feathery leaves beautifully proportioned and balanced at the top. Perhaps more than most other palms it appreciates a position where it gets some protection from the wind, however. As it approaches mature stature, with the crown of long, arching, plummy leaves 25 to 35 feet above the ground, large clusters of creamy-white blooms appear among the lower foliage as an extra, graceful, showy feature. This hardy tree is at its best when planted either as a single specimen or in background groups.

Caryota mitis. Clustered Fishtail Palm.

One of our most interesting palms, a type that produces many new shoots from the base. This semi-hardy palm is best used, therefore, wherever the gardener wants the clustered or several-trunked effect. The leaflets of the feathery foliage are quite unusual, their shapely wedge-shaped outline, with the outer ends irregular and jagged-looking, making them very distinct. The dense tufts of foliage, that make up the crown, atop gray-green trunks that rise to heights of 15 or 25 feet.

*CARYOTA URENS*

Caryota urens. Fishtail Wine Palm

Differing from the *Caryota mitis* in its habit of producing tall, stately, single-trunked specimens rather than lower, several-stemmed clumps, this species is also marked by the tremendous size of the individual leaves which, in some of the natural stands in the India, Malaya, Ceylon country where it is native, have been measured up to 15-18 feet in length, 8-10 feet or more in breadth. Well-grown specimens are always outstanding in any landscape where they are used. At flowering maturity the blooms appear in clusters on down-hanging stalks 8 to 10 feet in length. Semi-hardy and grows best where fertile soil, and water, are available.

Chamaedorea collinia. Mexican Parlor Palm

Here is one of the finest of all tender palms for indoor culture, a fact that the common name suggests. In addition, however, it is a wonderful sort for use in shaded, protected locations out-of-doors, the general effect being that of a feathery, low-growing, graceful, many-stemmed clump. It is ideal, too, for tub or pot culture outside, as along the shady side of the patio. The feathery foliage has a verdant, luxuriant, fresh-looking tone where the plant is shielded from direct sunshine, and where there is an ample supply of water, and fertilizer.

Chamaedorea elegans. Parlor Palm

This delightful tender palm, a small, almost miniature sort, seldom attains heights greater than about six feet even in its native habitats in Mexico and Central America. It varies somewhat in its gross characters, developing in many-stalked form on occasion, or now and then producing its feathery crown on single trunks. The foliage is of a cheerful, bright green hue, especially enjoyable where it is not subject to the intense heat and light of the mid-day sun. Wonderful too, as a tubbed or potted specimen on or around the shaded porch, patio or under lath. Will never exceed about eight feet in height.



PHOENIX ROEBELENI (Page 16)

***Chamaedorea graminifolia*. Monkeytail Pacaya Palm**

A tender Guatemalan beauty that has come to be prized for the exceptional and exquisite grace, and well-balanced proportions, of its lovely, feathery foliage. It has become very popular with gardeners for both pot or tub use as well as for planting directly into the open ground. Never more than five feet tall at maturity, and usually producing three, four or perhaps a few more, main stems, it is just the kind for solving many planting problems where you need something close-in, low, and gracefully proportioned. Prefers protection against full sun. Develops best foliage color when well watered and fed.

***Chamaedorea sartori*. Sartor Pacaya Palm**

Another small, tender palm, one that possesses the same qualities of beauty, graceful textures and proportions, and most attractive foliage features that mark its several counterparts in the genus *Chamaedorea*. It is a Mexican species, and is capable of growing taller than other *Chamaedorea*s (to 10-12 feet), and therefore is valuable for use with the others, in the taller background positions. It is more apt to be single-trunked, a feature that suggests the possibility of using three or four, close-planted in clump fashion, where that quality is an advantage. Likes shadowy sites, too.

***Clinostigma mooreanum*. Moore Sentry Palm**

A most beautiful and graceful tender species, the long, arching, feathery foliage attractive in any garden setting or house plant. Plant where there is some protection against heavy winds, and in some shade, for best results. This palm, like most all of the others, develops its best appearance if it is placed where it can be watered, and where the earth is well-drained and fertile.

*BUTIA CAPITATA****Butia capitata.* Cocus Australis**

Here is a sturdy, handsome, more or less short-trunked hardy beauty, ranging to 15-18 feet in height. The long-stalked leaves arch upward, outward, and downward to give a vase- or fountain-shaped outline to the crown, a splendid landscape feature. Though there is some variation among seedlings, some specimens being more compact, others more open, for example, the basic qualities so far as the gardener is concerned are all appealing and worthy. Leaves are exceptionally long and graceful, and the leaflets correspondingly so, their color effect being mainly bluish-green or grayish-green, the undersides whiter. A fine palm for specimen use where you do not need great height. Adaptable for clumps or groups, too.

***Cocos armata.* Overtop Palm**

A most handsome, semi-hardy and big palm with foliage of rich, dark, shining green when well grown. In its native West Indies habitats it is reported to rise to 50-60 feet in height, but with us will usually mature nearer 25 feet. The leaves are long, heavy and gracefully arched, the leaflets very prominent and broad. A well-grown specimen has many of the appearances of the Queen Palms, *Arecastrums*. The lofty trunks are clean-looking, with the characteristic ringed markings where old leaves have fallen away. The Overtop Palm may be used in all the conventional ways, plus being most desirable for group plantings on larger properties.

***Diplothemium campestris.* Brazilian Feather Palm**

A beautiful semi-hardy palm of intermediate height, the crown broad and graceful. Trunk distinct and clean. The feathery leaves are long, strong and heavy, of rich green color that makes for finest appearances either when the tree is used as a specimen, or in the background. Best color and form develop in locations where there is some protection against wind and hottest mid-day sun, and where water is readily available.

***Diplothemium caudescens.* Caudate Feather Palm**

Another very attractive, hardy, feather palm from Brazil and adjacent areas, a shorter-trunked beauty that ordinarily will stand 10 feet or less at maturity. The crown is heavily massed, very dense, with bold, stiff feathery foliage to make this species one of the really powerful-looking palms. Leaflets are broad, and of rich, dark green color when the tree is growing well.

*JUBEA SPECTABILIS*

Above Pictures Courtesy of the Huntington Botanical Gardens

*PHOENIX CANARIENSIS*

Howea belmoreana (Kentia). Sentry Palm

The Sentry Palms have always been among the most popular of all the many kinds, very extensively used in pot and tub culture for indoor, conservatory and greenhouse purposes. This particular species is one of the best, its solitary, sentry-like trunk rising to perhaps 15 or 20 feet at maturity, the handsomely green-toned feathery foliage at first carried erect, then arching over, outward and downward in most graceful form. Here is a tender, slow-growing type that retains the verdant greenness of the thickly-mantled, dense crown through the years. At its best, either for specimen or group planting, if some protection can be provided against the full blast of mid-day sun, and if water, and good soil, are available.

Howea forsteriana. Paradise Palm

An unusually rugged beauty among its types, one of the larger forms of the Sentry Palms, with trunks that may eventually reach 30 feet. The feathery foliage is neat in all respects, looks almost as though the leaflets had been brushed and combed into neat position when the tree is properly handled. Though the leaves seem to be distinctly more resistant to wind than is the case with its counterpart, above, the semi-tender Paradise Palm is also better off in a somewhat protected position where leaf colors are brighter, fresher, too, especially if water is handy. All palms look their verdant best in deep, rich, well-fertilized and well-drained ground, and this one is no exception.

Hyophorbe verschaffelti. Spindle Palm

These are truly unusual palms, particularly in the way their trunks fatten and bulge along the lower half of their 15- to 25-foot heights. The swollen trunks lend a distinct and quite different appearance. The effect is one of stocky, sturdy strength, the crown of feathery foliage setting it off beautifully. Leaflets are dark green, prominently veined down the middle, closely arranged along the midrib, and almost two feet in length. Grow semi-hardy Spindle Palms as specimens, or group them for their massed beauties in middleground and background locations on larger properties.

Jubaea spectabilis. Chilean Wine Palm

Here is a hardy palm that is not only beautiful, but that also has the most interesting quality of producing a kind of syrupy sap that is used, in the native habitat, much as maple sap is in our country. For garden purposes, it is hard to imagine a more beautiful, striking palm. The trunk is clean, short, thick, and marked by prominent scars where leaves have fallen away. It is heavy, thick trunked, massive really, but with a molded, artistically finished look about it that sets it distinctly apart. Above the swollen trunk stands a thickly-set crown of feathery leaves, stretching outward and downward in most gracefully plumed fashion. Leaves are deep green. All in all, the Chilean Wine Palm must be recognized as one of our truly superb species, outstanding as a specimen anywhere.

Neanthe bella. Dwarf Guatemala Palm

Although botanists regard this lovely species as being synonymous with *Chamaedorea elegans* it is perfectly clear that the selection or strain we offer is distinct, so far as size is concerned. This Guatemalan Dwarf, or Mexican Dwarf, Palm is much shorter, a "tree palm in miniature" as it has been so adequately decried. It is a most versatile, adaptable, semi-hardy species, ideal for indoor or outdoor culture, in pots, tubs, planter boxes or out in the open soil. One of the easiest to grow, it will often flower in small containers in the house. Neanthe is a very slow-growing sort, its stems delicately graceful, and thin. The light, feathery, bright green leaves arise in a sort of rosette at the tip of the slim stalk or trunk. Neanthe is tops among palms for all house and garden uses where you want small size, as well as graceful, delicate beauty. Fine when massed.

Opsiandra maya. Opsiandra Palm

We have a very high regard for this semi-hardy newcomer that was found around Mayan ruins in Mexico. It forms a beautiful, plummy crown to 35 feet or more in its native habitat, but probably will mature lower, 20 to 25 feet here in our region. The feathery leaves are long, arching and most graceful, often reaching 8 to 10 feet in length. The trunk is heavy, thick, and ringed artistically where the leaf bases have broken away. We recommend it highly.

Oreodoxa regia (Roystonea). Florida Royal Palm

Universally regarded as one of the most beautiful and striking of all trees, the tender Florida Royal Palm has been planted in all parts of the tropical and subtropical world. In the humid tropical islands where it is native, mature specimens rise to heights near 70 feet, but usually do not exceed more than 30 to 40 feet with us here. The trunks of the Royal Palms are most handsome, almost architecturally beautiful, like artistic pillars that are fat and swollen near their middles, decorated with prominent rings. Long, feathery leaves arch up, and out, and downward most gracefully, their dark green hue outstanding, too. These palms delight in plenty of moisture, and a fertile, deep, well-drained soil.

Phoenix canariensis. Canary Island Date Palm

This has always been one of the most popular of palms for garden, street and park plantings in our region. It is a strong-growing, hardy type, its trunk thick, heavy, sturdy. The feathery plumes of foliage are tremendous in size, sometimes reaching 15 feet in length, and are carried in most beautiful, artistic array over the wide crown to give the distinct fountain-like outline and form most of us are familiar with. The ultimate height may be as much as 40 to 50 feet. It has proven to be one of our hardiest palms, can even be planted in some parts of northern California.

Phoenix dactylifera. Date Palm

This is the parent type of the edible date of commerce, orchards of which abound in our region. Having sprung from wild types native to North Africa and Arabia, the hardy date palms are perfectly at home here. They can become large trees, in age, having been recorded to heights near 80 feet, and known to live for more than 100 years. Trees are either male or female and, when grown from seeds, will be about equally divided between the two sexes. Trunks are strong, sturdy, to adequately support the wide crown of feathery foliage. The leaves, carried erect at first, gradually bend outward and downward, finally to give a broad, vase-shaped outline to the tree. New shoots, suckers, often rise from the base.

Phoenix reclinata. Senegal Date Palm (Front Cover)

For the gardener, there is little doubt that this hardy species is one of the most valuable and most ornamental. The trunk is inclined to remain slim and, as the tree matures, is noted for the way it bends off this way or that, thus to give a distinctly new and different effect in the home planting. Many of the specimens begin early to produce new shoots or stalks from around the base, these finally rising to create a more densely bushy, many-trunked or clump effect, 20 to 25 feet; the single-trunked ones often getting to 40 or 45 feet.



VEITCHIA MERRILI (Manila Palm)

Phoenix roebeleni. Pygmy Date Palm (Page 12)

This is a very well-known sort, probably the smallest and most graceful of all the Phoenix palms. It is a slower-growing, hardy type, seldom exceeding heights of 10 feet. The feathery foliage is most artfully carried, arching and drooping gracefully, the color very good. Here again we have a palm that is naturally inclined to produce several main stems, thus to give the clump effect that so many home gardeners now seek to bring relief to the home-garden scene which is so greatly dominated by single-trunked, straight-up trees and shrubs. The Pygmy Date Palm is perfectly adapted to tub and pot culture, to extensive use in planters of many kinds, as well as to direct setting out in the open garden. Best, cleanest, most colorful foliage develops under conditions which provide some protection against the full heat of mid-day sun. Water the plants well during the growing season.

Phoenix rupicola. Cliff Date Palm

Here is a hardy species that we like to recommend for the unusual beauties of its foliage. Where some of the other palms may give the appearance of being too stiff, from the way their leaves are held, the Cliff Date Palm shows them off in much more relaxed, pleasing manner. It is not a big palm, seldom getting to more than 30 feet tall. It makes quite a show with its heavy crops of bright yellow fruits, another unusual feature. The species is without a doubt one of the finest for tub and pot culture, for use in any kinds of containers or in confined quarters as around the patio, as well as for planting anywhere about the grounds in single-specimen or clump fashion.

Syagrus coronata. Licury Palm

Here is a lovely, semi-hardy, feathery-leaved palm of intermediate to low stature, and notable for its hardiness. The plummy foliage arches beautifully upward, outward and downward to give a fine shape or outline to the crown. Trunks are sturdy-looking. Foliage is bluish-gray or bluish-green in color tone, definitely neutral. Use these palms for individual specimens or for planting in groups.

Veitchia merrili (Adonidia). Manila Palm

Undoubtedly the best of the ornamental palms that have come to us from the Philippines. A semi-hardy, graceful, rather slender grower, its 15 -to 18-foot trunks crowned with a generous display of unusually handsome foliage. Individual leaves run to six feet in length, the leaflets 2 to 2½ feet long and of bright, glossy green tone. It is an ideal palm for grouping three or more. The fruits of this species are so brilliantly red that the tree is sometimes called the Christmas Berry Palm. They are quite showy over several months of the year.



CYCAS REVOLUTA (Sago Palm)

This Palm Booklet does not in any sense cover the entire list of Palms that we are attempting to grow. Many varieties are in our seed beds and we would be glad to have your comment on other varieties not listed.

CYCADS

Ceratozamia mexicana. Mexican Horncone

We regard this Mexican species as one of the most beautiful and most promising of the wonderful cycads that are coming into prominence among discriminating gardeners of our region. It is a handsome, semi-hardy thing, the long, fern-like leaves, up to five or six feet in length, arch upward and outward from the short, stocky trunk finally to reach heights of almost six feet. Leaflets are closely spaced along the midrib, and are dark green above, lighter green below. Individual leaflets measure about 12 inches long, sharply tapered to a point at the end. Like all cycads, give the Mexican Horncone a position in shade, and be sure to provide well-drained soil. Water and fertilize abundantly when it begins to show signs of new leaf and stem growth, and during the actively growing period. Use much less water, and no fertilizer, during periods of inactive growth.

Cycas circinalis. Crozier Cycas

Considered to be the class of all cycads, sometimes described as the "gem" of the group, this widely distributed semi-hardy beauty justifies every bit of the praise that has been heaped upon it. The picturesque trunks rise to 8 or 10 feet at maturity and are topped by broad, good-looking leaves to six or more feet in length, 18 to 24 inches across. A wonderful show in shady gardens where it grows at its best. All cycads like leaf molds or similar organic matter, but they must be so planted that all surplus water can drain away.

Cycas revoluta. Sago Palm

Another beautiful cycad, and well known to be the toughest and hardiest of the group. The Sago Palm can be grown in full sunshine, even in our desert sections, but will profit from having some shade if it can be provided. When well grown the main trunk slowly rises to heights of 6 or 8 feet, and is crowned by 4-foot-long leaves, sometimes up to 80 or more of them. Leaflets are closely-set over the entire length, of strong, dark green color when the foliage is mature. Old Sago Palms will produce side branches or side trunks, adding much to their picturesqueness. This is the cycad to use if you wish to handle any of them as tubbed or potted specimens for porch, patio or sun deck use. Fruits, on female plants, are bright and showy.



CORDYLINE (Dracaena) INDIVISA (Page 19)

Dion edule. Chestnut Dion

This is another very lovely and picturesque cycad, one that is rather widely used and that has shown some qualities of resistance to sun. The beautiful trunks range to 4, 5 or even 6 feet tall in older specimens, branching out from below to produce side trunks. The crown of fern-like leaves crowds the top of each trunk, the mature color a very desirable dark green. Leaflets, individually, are very shapely and good-looking, each one tapering sharply toward the tip. Chestnut Dion is a very practical, hardy sort for both new and experienced gardeners. It is more frost-hardy than others of its group, can be handled nicely in tubs or pots and has proven quite valuable in rockeries.

Dion spinulosum. Giant Dion

Though this majestic and most graceful semi-hardy cycad has been recorded as growing to heights of 50 feet in the rain forests of Central America where it is native, only under greenhouse culture could we expect it to act similarly here. In a favorable outdoor location here it should slowly develop to 15, possibly 20, feet tall. The fern-like leaves are most handsome, gracefully arching upward, outward and downward from their clustered positions atop the good-looking trunks. It must have a frost-free location, in shade or half-shade, well-drained soil, with most watering and fertilizing being restricted to the period of active formation of new leaves.

Zamia media. Australian Nut Palm

This is a delightful, tender cycad, one that most gardeners in our region can grow without too much fuss and worry. The fern-like leaves are unusually light and lovely, three to four feet long, mounted with most gracefully carried leaflets that range to six or seven inches in length. Under favorable conditions the trunks will rise 8 or 10 feet, possibly more, and they tend not to branch or to become several-trunked. For best year-in, year-out results, plant in sheltered locations where there is protection from wind and sun. Make sure the earth is perfectly drained. Water abundantly when new growth is coming on, less during quiescent periods.



PALM- LIKE PLANTS

STRELITZIA NICOLAI

(Page 21)

***Beaucarnea recurvata.* Tree Nolina**

A handsome specimen that is perfectly adapted to withstanding severely dry, desert-like situations, its tall, tree-like main stem or trunk rising as much as 15 to 20 feet into the air. These tall trunks, usually markedly swollen at the base, are topped by an attractive, large rosette of long, thin leaves (sometimes six feet in length, but less than an inch wide). The leaves tend to incline downward in pendulous habit, the flowers whitish and borne in clustered panicles. The hardy Tree Nolina enjoys exposed sites, lots of sunshine, and a rich, well-drained loamy or sandy-loam soil.

***Cordyline australis.* Giant Dracaena**

A beautiful, hardy New Zealand native that is right at home here, making a striking effect in the garden. It is a tree-like sort, the trunk often getting up to 20 or 30 feet, mounted on top with a dense cluster of tough, leathery, 2½- to 3-foot leaves that are flat, narrow, and bronzy- to fresh-green in color. Flower clusters are large, the blooms quite fragrant. After flowering is the tendency of the crown to fork and branch out.

***Cordyline indivisa.* Blue Dracaena**

Another most handsome, hardy palm-like and tree-like plant from New Zealand, one that is perfectly suited by nature for extensive planting in our region. The tall trunk often rises to 25 or 30 feet, crowned at the top with a large head of beautiful foliage. The leaves often growing to six feet in length, six inches in breadth, are tough in every respect, flat, light green above with a raised mid-rib, and bluish green on the undersides. Blooms are attractive as they appear in their clustered panicles that droop to four feet in length. They are whitish, but not particularly fragrant. The Blue Dracaena does not tend to fork and branch after flowering as does the above.

***Cordyline rubra.* Lilac Dracaena**

This one is something slightly different in Dracaenas, its lilac-lavender flowers carried in nodding lateral clusters. The habit is very lovely, that of a small, hardy, narrow tree perhaps to 10-12 feet in gardens although reported as going higher than that in its native Australian habitats. The leaves, a foot to two feet in length, and 2 inches wide, are closely set in most attractive arrangement along the trunk. Clump plantings of Lilac Dracaena, with 3, 4 or 5 specimens close-spaced, make an unusually fine effect in the home landscape.



MUSA SAPIENTEUM

Dracaena draco. Dragon Tree

This semi-hardy, handsome, tall, tough-leaved beauty from the Canary Islands can be striking in the garden, whether used as a single specimen or, better, planted several in a group. The tree-like trunks, often quite picturesquely branched, are known to reach 50 to 60 feet, capped at the top with a dense head of narrow, 2-foot leaves. Flowers appear in large clusters, are greenish-white in color. To give an idea of the ultimate size, and longevity of the species, the famous Dragon Tree of Oratava, reputed to be one of the oldest living trees, measured 75 feet in height, and is 15 feet in diameter at the base of the trunk.

Musa ensete. Abyssinian Banana

This semi-hardy Abyssinian species is one of the largest, the tall, tree-like trunk reaching 20 to 30 feet in the garden, taller in its native habitat. The huge leaves, from base to tip, may measure as much as 15 feet in length, 2 to 3 feet in breadth, are carried high, upward and outward in graceful sweeps. The base of the trunk is broad and swollen in the Abyssinian Banana. Strong winds must be regarded as one of the worst enemies, so plant where there is protection from them. Though you may wish to let the plant flower, it may prolong life somewhat if bloom buds are picked off.

Musa maurelli. Ethiopian Banana

Another strictly ornamental, semi-hardy banana species, the habit of growth rather unusual and more attractive. The trunk which, as with all bananas, is made up solely of sheathing, wrapped-around bases of the huge leaves, will stand near 20-30 feet at maturity, topped off with a rosette of strong, dark-toned fans of leaves that are of unusual metallic green or blackish green on the upper surfaces, with strong purplish-brown colors on the undersides. Mid-ribs and leaf margins are often quite red-purple or brown-purple, too. Renewal is from the new shoots that rise from the ground around the base of the trunk.

Musa paradisiaca sapientum. Fruiting Banana

A handsome, semi-hardy tree, one that contributes the ultimate in tropical effects wherever it can be grown, indoors in conservatories or outside in the garden plantings. The huge leaves range to 7 or 8 feet in length, and to 18 inches to 2 feet in breadth, carried on trunks to 20-25 feet tall. Since wind-whipping frays the foliage, and may shorten the life of the plant, bananas should be placed where they are given some protection against it. As each trunk dies its place is taken by other plants that rise progressively, year after year, as sprouts or suckers from the region of the root collar at the base of the old, spent trunk. Ample watering and fertilizing, during the growing season, makes for superior trees.



FICUS RETUSA (Indian Laurel Fig) (Page 26)

Musa sumatrana. Sumatra Banana

Here is a dwarf-sized banana, one of the most beautiful and most practical that can be grown in the average home planting. At maturity it will stand near 8 feet in height, the long leaves stretching outward to 6 feet, and almost 18 inches in breadth. This semi-hardy form, usually renews its growth by means of stolons (off-shoots, suckers, sprouts) that come from the root-collar zone to replace old, spent plants. The Sumatra Banana may be used in a variety of ways, as individual specimens in a tropical setting; in broad tubs or planters; or, close-planted (three or so at a place) for a more striking effect.

Pandanus utilis. Screw Pine

A maturing specimen of this picturesquely branching tree from Madagascar is something you will not soon forget. The heavy branches are clothed from the tips back with handsome, spirally-carried leaves (about two feet long, 3 inches broad). These tufted masses of foliage, at branch ends, are good-looking. But their real beauty comes from their association, as the tree ages, with the lovely branching patterns, and with the development of the stilt-like brace roots. Though semi-hardy, Screw Pines are good-looking, and eminently worthwhile at any age, it is only as they mature a bit with the advancing years that the real beauties become prominent.

Ravenala madagascariensis. Traveller's Tree

Without a doubt one of the most striking of all tropical trees, the palm-like trunks topped with the huge, banana-type leaves that are carried in one-plane, fan-shaped array high in the air. Though specimens in the native haunts are known to get to 60 feet tall, or more, in gardens they will ordinarily mature nearer 20 feet. The common name apparently derives from the fact that the large leaf bases, and those of the flower stalks, become filled with water, and stay that way, for the possible benefit of weary travelers seeking it. Flower clusters are prominent and so are the masses of sky-blue seeds. This is a semi-hardy tree.

Strelitzia nicolai. Nicol Bird of Paradise

A tree-like Bird of Paradise that is big and beautiful in all its parts, under right conditions known to grow to 50 feet or more in height. Foliage is correspondingly huge, almost banana-like. The leaf blades, 3 to 4 feet long and up to 2 feet in width, are leathery, and bright, shining green. Flowers are borne over months of time, the boat-shaped base made up of reddish bracts that cradle the white, blue-tongued blooms. Semi-hardy, Nicol Bird of Paradise makes an excellent tubbed or potted subject, can be planted for individual specimen effects in the garden or may be grouped three or more in a clump for feature plantings.

*YUCCA AUSTRAL***Aloe salm-dyckiana. Salm-Dyck Aloe**

Here is a handsome South African member of the lily family, perfectly adapted to severe conditions of dryness and heat. The plant has a tufted, branching habit of growth, measuring near six feet at full size. Each branch is clothed at the tip with a dense head of foliage, the leaves ranging to 2½ feet in length, and 3½ inches wide, the centers dark green and the margins striped with yellow. The flowers are very showy, bright red in color, 1½ inches long, carried high in the air on 3-foot clustered racemes. A beautiful, hardy specimen in every way.

Yucca Austral. Soft Leafed

This type of *Nolina* shows some characteristics of a *Dracaena*, unarmed with pendant straps with individual and multiple trunks. It adds sharpness to any landscape design and is particularly an interesting subject in semi-tropical plantings. Flowers are white to cream and are pendant. Every garden should have a location for this fine, hardy *Yucca*.

Yucca brevifolia. Joshua Tree

One of the most striking and picturesque of all yuccas, this hardy native of the American southwest can be used handsomely in dry gardening with other succulents and cacti. It is a brute of a plant, for a yucca, variously and characteristically branched and shaped. The trunks often rise to 30-foot heights, the leaves fairly short for this type of plant (leaves 9 inches long). The blossoms are greenish-white, carried in heavy panicles up to 15-18 inches long.



CEREUS JAMACARZ (left) — *AGAVE HUACHUCENSIS* (right)

Yucca elephantipes. Bulbstem Yucca

Here is a most unusual, hardy yucca, sometimes called the "Spineless Yucca" or the "Palm Lily." The very base of the plant is broad, thick and swollen, and from it spring two or more trunks which, branching as they grow and mature, are topped with rosettes of 4-foot leaves, 3 to 4 inches broad, their color a bright, shining green. In their Mexican haunts the trees sometimes reach heights of 40 feet or more, very striking in their size and form. The Bulbstem Yucca has a place in any garden where plants that are capable of resisting heat and drought are being featured. Flowers are white or creamy-white.

Yucca macrocarpa. Texas Yucca.

This fine robust Yucca grows to 20 feet, leaves are stiff, green and flowers are 4 inches long. It is grown throughout the southwest area. This Yucca is commonly called Yucca Texana or Soap Yucca. It can be used in any desert landscape.

Yucca whipplei. Whipple Yucca

Another more or less stemless species, native to our southwest, it takes on its finest qualities of beauty at flowering time when the robust bloom stalk rises high, often to 12 feet, the tip crowned with large, 2-inch blossoms, creamy-white, nodding and fragrant. A most worthy addition in any home planting and particularly serviceable under hot, dry conditions, and it is hardy.

CACTI and SUCCULENTS

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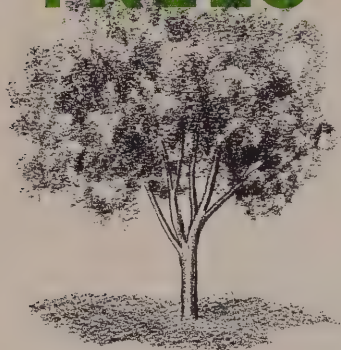
Most of our Cacti are in 5-gal. cans and specimen size.

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Specialists in Palms

SHADE TREES



JACARANDA ACUTIFOLIA (Jacaranda) (Page 27)

Acacia dealbata (*Acaica decurrens dealbata*). Silver Wattle

One of the most striking of all large trees when, in earliest spring, the broad, tall crown is covered with the characteristic masses of yellow, fragrant flowers, the heads clustered in loose, raceme-like trusses. A huge tree in its native Australian and Tasmanian habitats, going to 100 feet in the forests there, the Silver Wattle will ordinarily take on mature stature nearer 40 to 60 feet in gardens in our region. Leaflets are small, giving a fern-like appearance to the foliage, and are covered with a silvery down.

Albizzia julibrissin. Silk Tree

Here is another member of the legume family. Not only is *Albizzia* one of the showiest of the summer-flowering trees when covered with the round puff-balls of bloom, but it is lovely as to overall form, and possessed of extreme grace by virtue of its small-leafletted, fern-like foliage. Usually single-trunked, although sometimes displaying two or three main stems, the Silk Tree is capable of rising to heights near 25 or 30 feet, its broad crown spreading outward in umbrella fashion to become a feature of any home planting in which it is grown. This one is the hardiest of its immediate group, perfectly capable of withstanding a lot of cold weather. Wonderful for planting near patios, terraces, sun decks where the filtered shade cast by its graceful crown can be most appreciated. Or it makes a fine specimen tree for mid-summer flowering effects farther out in the garden.

Callistemon viminalis. Bottle-Brush Tree

Another beautiful tree, from the Australian-Tasmania forest regions, that is marked by the brilliant display of flowers arranged in cylindrical bottle-brush fashion near the tips of the branches. The bright red stamens, protruding conspicuously from each of the many blooms in the cluster are responsible for the unusual color effects. Although the tree is reported as going to 30- and 40-foot heights in nature, it must be regarded as a small tree in our gardens, one that is made all the more useful and attractive because of the down-bending, pendulous habit of the outer branches. It is an evergreen, belonging to the family of the true myrtles, its foliage narrow, linear. Use it as a specimen, or for group or clump plantings, so placed as to display the bright and unusually formed masses of brilliant flowers in spring.



ALBIZZIA JULIBRISSIN (Silktree Albizzia)

Eucalyptus citriodora. Lemon Eucalyptus

One of the most handsome and most practical of the Eucalyptus for garden plantings, capable of attaining heights of well over a hundred feet in its native Australian habitats, but maturing nearer 40 to 60 feet in our area. It is a tall, upright-growing tree, graceful in its lines, and very picturesque in its white-barked beauty. Juvenile leaves are 3 to 6 inches long, half as wide, and in opposite arrangement. Adult foliage is narrow-to broad-lance-shaped, alternate, and possessed of the most attractive lemon scent. The pattern of the white-barked limbs and branches, and the way the foliage is carried in tufts, make for most unusual and pleasing silhouettes against the sky.

Ficus elastica. India Rubber Tree

A beautiful tree for subtropical gardening, not only for its handsome foliage but also for the appealing habit of its branching. Leaves are shiny, leathery, oblong to elliptical in outline, sometimes to 12 inches or more in length, and half as wide, carried well-spaced and conspicuously when the plant is properly grown. In the forests of tropical Asia where this tree is native it will eventually reach heights near 100 feet. But in practical garden usage in our region it should be regarded as a small tree for use where you need something with the tropical characteristics to nearer 20 to 30 feet. The foliage, dark, shining-green above, and more yellowish-green on the under surfaces, is beautiful. Easily adapted to tub or pot culture.

Ficus microphylla. Littleleaf Rubber Tree

Another of the tropical "rubber trees," this one native in South America, its smaller foliage having the advantage of giving the more polished, finer-textured effects that serve nicely to relieve tropical and subtropical plantings. A fine tree for pot or tub culture, or for planting as single specimens or in clumps where the shining-green, 6- to 8-inch leaves can show at its best. The crown is more thickly set with smaller limbs and branches than is the case with the Indian Rubber Tree, above.

Ficus Thonningii

Native of Africa, an excellent tree for patio with large, shining, papery leaves, 9 inches long. This tree makes an excellent tropical effect; however, it needs protection against cold.

*OLEA EUROPAEA (Olive Tree)**HOLLY OAK (Page 30)****Ficus mysorensis*. Mysore Rubber Tree**

Here is another of the most handsome rubber trees from the forests of India and Burma, a big-foliaged beauty whose large, leathery, rich green leaves, up to 12 inches long, are its outstanding characteristic. A large tree in its native haunts, the Mysore Rubber Plant is nonetheless one of the most practical forms for us since it can easily be kept within modest bounds. The trunk and branching features, plus the large, beautifully-formed foliage, contribute a feeling of power and strength. A fine type for tub, pot or container culture.

***Ficus nitida* (*Ficus retusa*). India Laurel Tree**

Here is something a bit different in the rubber tree group, a small-leaved, thick-topped evergreen form which, though native in India and Malaya, has been extensively planted all through the American tropics. The foliage is shining, waxy green, smooth, and from 2 to 4 inches in length, with the distinctly laurel-like appearance. It is carried densely all over the crown of upright-growing limbs and branches. India Laurel Tree is extensively planted for park, street, avenue and garden purposes in the tropics, and it is very versatile and adaptable to pot and tub culture, will stand trimming and training in any formal standard, pyramid, etc., shape that one desires.

Fraxinus uhdei. Shamel Ash

The Shamel Ash is one of our finest shade tree types, evergreen except in the colder sections farther north, a very serviceable, practical and beautiful species for background positions. It is a rapid-growing sort that establishes itself quickly even under conditions of average soil fertility. It is proving especially valuable for street, avenue, park and highway landscaping, and can be used for single shade-tree specimen purposes, or for group planting in the home grounds.

Koelreuteria paniculata. Golden Rain Tree

When the lovely rounded crown of this handsome tree is covered with the broad, loose clusters of golden yellow flowers at midsummer, it is a sight to behold. Golden Rain Tree has all of the best attributes we associate with the ideal home-garden tree. The crown is carried well up on a clean, straight trunk, the final height near 20 to 25 feet. The branches are held outward, tending toward the horizontal pattern that is especially valuable around the modern house. The leaves are compound, with an almost leathery texture and sheen, good-looking throughout the growing season. It is the combination of all these features, good form, cleanliness, fine foliage, and the colorful summer-time display of flowers that makes the Golden Rain Tree a hard one to beat. Furthermore, it is a hardy, versatile species, usable anywhere.

Jacaranda acutifolia (*Jacaranda mimosifolia*). Sharp-Leaf Jacaranda

Probably the best of all blue-flowered trees, this species is an absolute delight throughout our region. Though in its native Brazilian habitat it is known to reach heights of 50 feet, we should regard it, and use it, more as a small tree, of good size for any and all home grounds' plantings. Resembling some of the acacias in habit, with fern-like foliage that is an added attraction through the entire growing season, the peak of its beauty is reached when the crown becomes loaded down in late spring with the beautiful, pyramidal clusters of blue flowers. It is a striking specimen during this period, completely amenable to whatever kind of pruning you may want to do on it to train it as necessary for its location.

Lagerstroemia indica. Crape Myrtle

Refreshing masses of bright flowers cover the crowns of these smallish trees throughout the growing season to make it perhaps the showiest of all of the kinds that are available to home gardeners. The blossoms are like crinkled crape, very heavily produced, in shades of white, pink, red and purple. A Chinese plant, it has become widely planted and used everywhere in the subtropical and warm-temperate world, a tribute to its outstanding color and beauty. The Crape Myrtles are of easiest culture, require very little care, and love heat. Since the blooms are borne on current-season's wood, you may feel free to do whatever pruning is necessary (to maintain attractive form) any time during late winter.

Magnolia grandiflora. Southern Magnolia

The beautiful, white to creamy-white, dinner-plate-size blooms of this outstanding evergreen tree, opening more or less continuously from June on into October, are unusual in every way, including their high degree of fragrance. The Southern Magnolia is perhaps the best of all big-leaved evergreen flowering trees. Its habit of growth, where it is given a good location and fertile soil in the gardens of our region, is rounded and quite dense, the ultimate height near 30 to 50 feet. Where there is plenty of space, the lower branches sweep right down to the ground, the huge blooms forming at the tips of every branchlet. The foliage is shiny, leathery, very good looking all the time.

Olea europaea. Olive Tree

The gardeners of our area are fortunate, indeed, that this fine tree is so much at home here with us. It enjoys our climate and soils, and must be regarded as among the most attractively picturesque of anything we can grow. It is not a large species, will seldom exceed 20 feet, or thereabouts, in ultimate height. The foliage is good, the leaves tough, more or less oval, to about three inches in length. Flowers are fragrant. But it is the combination of the nice-looking foliage, plus the highly picturesque qualities of gnarled trunk, limbs and branches, as the trees age, that give the real beauty and character.

Persea borbonia. Red Bay Tree

Here is another handsome evergreen tree, capable of getting up to heights of 25 or 30 feet, quite laurel-like in its general appearances. It is closely related to avocado, and has proven very much at home in our region. A native of southeastern United States, the Red Bay is recognized as one of the very adaptable, versatile and easy-to-care-for broad-leaved evergreens. Grow it as a foliage sort, exclusively, since the waxy, 6-inch leaves are its most attractive feature.



MAGNOLIA GRANDIFLORA
(Southern Magnolia)
(Page 27)

Pinus canariensis. Canary Island Pine

A beautiful, long-needled pine, the foliage 7- to 10-inches long on healthy specimens, the tree a wide-spreading sort when permitted to grow at will. In its native habitats in the Canary Islands, this pine becomes immense, up to 90 or 100 feet. But here with us it should be regarded as more of a medium-sized tree, the long needles and the drooping, down-hanging way they are carried over the crown, being its chief marks of beauty. Furthermore, the Canary Island Pine can be grown nicely in large tubs or pots where its size will be automatically reduced, its growth markedly slowed. It is unusually fine, too, for clump or group planting, intermixed with broadleaved trees in garden backgrounds. The new growth is silver, changing to soft gray-green.

Pinus halepensis. Aleppo Pine; Jerusalem Pine

This is one of the finest of medium-sized, two-needled pines, capable of growing very slowly to heights of 40 feet or so. The needles are of modest length, usually from 2 to about 4 inches. The crown of limbs and branches, as the tree nears maturity, presents a pleasing, irregular pattern, the young needle-bearing branchlets quite slender. Though it will resist cold sufficiently to justify its use far north in California and Oregon, its most notable quality of "resistance" is seen in its ability to survive much heat and drought.

Pinus pinaster. Cluster Pine

Here is another magnificent Mediterranean pine that is right at home with us here in the southwest. It is a fairly large pine, heavy branched, straight trunked, the old bark reddish-brown, the branchlets mounted with rather long, 5- to 7-inch needles, in pairs. The Cluster Pine has been extensively used in land and sea-coast reclamation work in Europe, is noted for its ruggedness after it becomes well established. It can be used for tub or pot culture.

Pinus pinea. Italian Stone Pine

Here is one of the most decorative and most highly ornamental of all pines, in our opinion, especially if you can encourage it to grow in several-trunked style, mainly by placing it out in full light with ample space all around. Even where it is planted close to or among other trees, the mature crown broadens and flattens quite beautifully. Strong, well-rooted young trees are easy to establish in the garden. Grown in large tubs or pots, the gardener can encourage the many-trunked effect, if that is desired, by taking out the leader after about the second or third year, thus throwing the strength into the more rapid development of the side branches. A well-grown specimen is definitely aristocratic in its appearance.



SCHINUS TEREBINTHIFOLIA (Page 30)

***Pinus radiata*. Monterey Pine (Page 32)**

Our native Monterey pine must be regarded as among the finest of the group for ornamental plantings. In fact, it is extensively used in all parts of the warm temperate world, even in New Zealand, Australia and South Africa, where it is noted for its ability to establish quickly and to grow rapidly. It is a lovely three-needled species, grows into a heavily-branched specimen, at maturity, to recorded heights of nearly 100 feet. We recommend it highly for clump or group plantings, intermixed with broadleaved trees, for background purposes, and for specimen use. Especially valuable on suburban, ranch and estate properties, too.

***Pittosporum rhombifolium*. Diamond-Leaf Pittosporum**

This tree must be regarded as one of the finest of all Pittosporums for its flowering characteristics. The white blooms are produced in abundant terminal clusters, all over the crown, very early in the year. The foliage effect is unusually fine, the rhombic leaves, 3 to 4 inches in length, the upper half coarsely and irregularly toothed, having a waxy, glossy sheen, and a tough, leathery texture. In Australia, the native habitat, specimens of the Queensland Pittosporum have been known to grow 70 to 80 feet tall. But here with us we expect them to take on mature form and stature nearer 30 to 35 feet.

***Pittosporum undulatum*. Victorian Box**

Here is another of the wonderful Pittosporums, a small-tree type that produces very nice crops of white flowers, in clusters at the tips of all branchlets, in spring. With us the tree should mature at heights near 20 or 25 feet, the beautifully shaped crown mounted all over with lance-shaped, laurel-like leaves 3 to 6 inches long and from 1 to 2 inches in breadth. The foliage is a bright, shining green, the margins of the leaves undulate.

Podocarpus elongatus. Fern Pine

A most beautifully-foliaged evergreen from Western Africa that is highly prized in our landscaping here both for tub or container use as well as for direct planting in the outdoor landscape. Given space and complete freedom to grow, this neat, polished conifer takes on full tree size, often to 30 or 40 feet, its handsomely-foliaged branches finally taking on a most attractive pendulous habit. In whatever way it is grown, trimmed or untrimmed, in containers or in the garden soil, it is the foliage that is most prominent. Leaves are narrow, more or less lance-shaped, and of an engaging dark green hue. The colorful fruits, orange-red, develop most plentifully on untrimmed specimens.

Podocarpus macrophylla. Yew-Leaved Podocarpus

This coniferous evergreen, native to China and Japan, is chiefly noted for the beauty of its form and foliage. The leaves are broadly needle-like, up to 3 or 4 inches in length, very dark green above and lighter, almost yellowish-green on the undersides. Left to grow at will, this Podocarpus will slowly attain tree-like size and form, to 25 or 35 feet, the flexuous branches dense-packed with linear, waxy blackish-green foliage. The leafy twigs and branches are highly valued for decorative purposes, too.

Pyrus kawakami. Evergreen Pear

We like this fine flowering tree not only for the way it covers itself each spring with the typically heavy, abundant masses of white blooms, but also for the fact that it can be used in so many different ways. It has very fine form where you need a small-statured flowering tree around the garden for single specimen planting. It can be encouraged easily to assume the character of a large shrub. And it is one of the most practical of woody plants for training espalier against walls, trellises or fences. The leaves are typically pear shaped and size, fresh and shiny in appearance, and evergreen. When full-blown in spring the flowers are heavy with a sweet fragrance.

Quercus agrifolia. California Live Oak

For sheer picturesqueness and grandeur, one must go a long way to find anything the equal of this outstanding native tree. Where it is given space the crown matures in wide, spreading fashion, the huge limbs and powerful trunk displaying their own particular type of grandeur and magnificence. The crown is rounded, clothed all over with dark, glossy green leaves of medium size. We cannot recommend this wonderful native too highly. It should be planted much more abundantly, on all properties where there is space, on the larger suburban grounds, ranches, and estates. Plant it singly or in groups.

Quercus ilex. Holly Oak

Here is another evergreen oak, this one from southern Europe, that has many possibilities for use on larger properties, and for street, park and highway planting. Not as tall as our native California Live Oak, the Holly Oak nevertheless can get to heights of 50 and 60 feet as it approaches maturity. The foliage is very handsome. Leaves are narrowly oval to more or less lance-shaped, varying in length from 1½ to 3 inches, toothed on young trees but more or less wavy on old specimens. The crown of the tree is beautifully broad. A hardy, recommended species. Page 26.

Schinus terebinthifolius. Brazilian Pepper Tree

We think this to be the best of all the so-called Pepper Trees for the average home grounds. The brilliantly red fruits are produced in more generous quantities, and the overall, smaller stature of the species is more in keeping with the ordinary-size property. The Brazilian Pepper Tree usually matures into a broad, round-headed beauty at somewhere near 18 to 20 feet, the compound leaves quite attractive and prominent all through the year. It is a clean species, too, and very rugged, adaptable everywhere in our area, even into the hottest parts.

Ulmus parvifolia. Evergreen Elm

Here is a slender branched, small-leaved ornamental that has become very popular for shade-tree uses in smaller gardens throughout our region. The crown rounds off nicely at 25 to 30 feet, ordinarily, the outer branches taking on a pendulous, down-hanging character, and clothed with bright green attractive, shapely foliage. The tree is very hardy with us, can be planted anywhere. Sometimes known as the Evergreen Elm, the foliage is retained well through the year except in colder parts where it may drop sometime after mid-winter. A justifiably popular tree.

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This California Native helps to make our California landscape unique and different.
See page 29 for description.

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